



## Related Services

According to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) related services means transportation and any other developmental, corrective or other supportive services **that a child needs to benefit from special education**. Some children need related services in order to meet the goals in their Individualized Education Program (IEP).

Related Services may include:

Speech-language and audiology services	Recreation
Adapted physical education	Specialized vision or hearing services
Interpreting services	Social work services
Psychological or counseling services (CMH)	School health or nurse services
Physical or occupational therapy	Orientation and mobility services

Related services are not limited to the ones outlined above. If a service is necessary for the child to benefit from his or her special education program, the service must be provided.

### Who provides related services?

Qualified professionals may provide related services in the area of their expertise. Assistants who are trained and supervised may also assist in providing related services.

### Who decides which related services are right for a child?

The student's IEP team, including the parent, decides which services are necessary, gathering information from the assessments.

### How are related services written into the IEP?

The IEP team will write goals for each related service, such as occupational therapy, that a child needs. The IEP will describe the type of related service that will be provided and how often, how long and where that service will be delivered. Related services may be provided in group or individual settings. They may be provided in the regular education classroom or in a separate setting. Related services may be provided in all educational settings and support special education in the least restrictive environment.

### Who pays for related services?

Related services must be provided at no cost to a child's family. The school may ask for parent consent to bill other *private agencies*, such as a parent's private insurance, for related services.

### What if the related services in a child's IEP are not being provided because there are staff shortages?

The school district must provide the related services in the child's IEP. The district may contract with providers outside the school district if there are personnel shortages in the school.

*Matrix Parent Network and Resource Center  
Serving Marin, Napa, Solano and Sonoma Counties  
Empowering families of children with special needs to understand and access the systems that serve them.*

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